IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

H. FUJISAWA, et al.

Application No.:

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No. 09/866,623, filed May 30, 2001

Filed:

On even date herewith

For:

A SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY DEVICE HAVING A

HIERARCHICAL I/O STRUCTURE

Art Unit of Parent:

2824

Examiner of Parent:

A. K. Phung

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. BOX 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 10, 2003

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as listed below and as set forth on the following pages:

Amendments to the Specification

Amendments to the claims and

Remarks are included following the amendments.